CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1195
2 April 1993

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 2 APRIL 1993 ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENTS OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TRANSMITTING A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE THREE GOVERNMENTS ON 1 APRIL 1993

NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY: DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

As the representatives in the Conference on Disarmament of the Depositary Governments of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, signed at Washington, London and Moscow on 1 July 1968, we wish to draw your attention to a statement issued by our three Governments on 1 April 1993 with regard to the announcement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its intention to withdraw from the Treaty. The English and Russian language texts of this statement are enclosed.

We should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its enclosure to be circulated as an official document of the Conference. It is the hope of our Governments that members of the Conference and non-member participants will wish formally to associate themselves with the statement of the Depositary Governments.

(Signed) S.B. Batsanov Ambassador Representative of the Russian Federation	(Signed) M.C.S. Weston Ambassador Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	(Signed) S.J. Ledogar Ambassador Representative of the United States of America

[Original: ENGLISH and RUSSIAN]

The Governments of the Russian Federation, United Kingdom, and the United States, which are the Depositary Governments of the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), wish to issue the following statement:

"- We express regret and concern at the announcement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of its intention to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

- Since the NPT is an essential element of international peace and security, DPRK withdrawal from the NPT would constitute a serious threat to regional and international stability.

- We question whether the DPRK's stated reasons for withdrawing from the Treaty constitute extraordinary events relating to the subject matter of the Treaty. In this regard, we recall that we have provided nuclear related security assurances to the DPRK as a non-nuclear weapon state party to the NPT.

- Remaining a party to the Treaty and complying fully with its terms would be in the DPRK's interests. It would help to reassure the international community about the nature of the DPRK's nuclear programme and the DPRK's desire for positive international relations, including peaceful nuclear cooperation.

- Moreover, DPRK withdrawal from the NPT would jeopardise stability on the Korean peninsula, which has improved in recent years, and undermine efforts to implement the North-South Joint Declaration on Denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula.

- We urge the DPRK to retract its announcement and to comply fully with its Treaty commitments and its safeguards obligations, which remain in force. In this respect, we strongly support the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to implement its safeguards agreement with the DPRK."

The three Governments call upon all NPT parties to associate themselves with this statement and to urge the DPRK to reconsider its position and to fulfil its commitments under the Treaty.